



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019

No. 93

## Senate

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Andrew M. Saul, of New York, to be Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2025. (Reappointment)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The President pro tempore.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 1 minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### HEALTHCARE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I would like to take a minute to explain why Medicare for All is a prescription for Medicare for None. Some folks are pitching this wild, misguided idea that one-size-fits-all government insurance is a cure-all for what ails the patients and the people of the United States of America. This conversation needs a strong dose of reality medicine.

Let's look at what is really being proposed—Medicare for None. Here is what it would do. It would dump 181 million Americans off their private health insurance plans, double your income taxes, and put patients with pre-existing conditions and chronic diseases on long waiting lists for medical care. It would unravel the current health safety net for seniors and people with disabilities, make the government the gatekeeper between Americans and their doctors, and, finally, put every single American who works for private health insurance out of business and out of a job.

The politics behind the proposal is simple: free healthcare. Let me remind my fellow Americans that if it sounds too good to be true, it is too good to be true.

Medicare for All is a catchy slogan. When you hear it on the campaign trail, remember it really boils down to government-run healthcare.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

#### NOMINATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Before the Senate adjourned for Memorial Day, I laid out seven more nominations for our consideration when we returned—four to fill important vacancies in the administration and three to the Federal bench. So this week, the Senate will continue our work to confirm more well-qualified nominees and finally let the American people's President have more of his team on the job.

Yesterday we began by voting to advance the nomination of Andrew Saul, of New York, to be Commissioner of Social Security. Mr. Saul is a graduate of the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and has spent decades building a successful career in business and in public administration. In addition to his experience in financial management, Mr. Saul has previously served as vice chairman of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority and as Chairman of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, where he oversaw programs relied upon by literally millions of Americans.

It is no surprise that our colleagues on the Finance Committee voted unanimously to favorably report Mr. Saul's nomination to the full Senate. I hope Members will reach the same conclusion and support his confirmation.

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's opening prayer will be offered by the Reverend Pat Conroy, S.J., Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

#### PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Divine Potter, take the misshapen clay that we are and fashion us into vessels of Your honor.

Open the hearts of our Senators to the fullness of life, forgiveness of sins, and the hope of eternity with You.

Remind our lawmakers of Your wisdom in Luke 12:48, which states: "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded, and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be added."

Lord, may our legislators realize how much they have been given and strive to use their gifts for Your glory.

We pray in Your most merciful Name. Amen.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S3171